

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: IKOMA et al.

Serial No.: Rule 53(b) of 09/299,644

Filed: June 26, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USE IN DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT FOR CONVERTING DATA FORMAT BETWEEN PROGRAM LANGUAGE-SPECIFIC FORMAT USED IN RESPECTIVE COMPUTERS AND STREAM FORMAT USED FOR COMMUNICATION AMONG COMPUTERS

Art Unit: Unassigned (previously 2151 in parent application)

Examiner: Unassigned (previously D. Cao in parent application)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 26, 2003

Sir:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, between lines 1 and 2, insert --This is a continuation of prior application Serial No. 09/299,644, filed April 27, 1999.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In Fig. 2, a client program 111 has therein: program data 113 and 122 which is specific to a computer and a described program language; an ORB 141